

January 21, 2004

Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth St., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: Notice of *Ex Parte* Presentation:
Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service,
CC Docket No. 96-45**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Joan Smith, a consultant for Western Wireless, recently sent the attached electronic message to Universal Service Joint Board member, Commissioner Thomas Dunleavy of New York.

The E-mail exchange come within the context of the above-referenced proceeding, *i.e.*, the ongoing "portability" proceeding being deliberated by the Joint Board on Universal Service.

If you have any questions, then please contact me at 202-654-5903.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Rubin
Director of Federal Government Affairs
Western Wireless Corp.